

application of International Patent Application PCT/US97/14548, filed August 15, 1997, which
is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 08/696,573, filed June 16, 1996, now
U.S. Patent No. 5,710,137.--

REMARKS

Prior to examination of the above-captioned application, Applicant respectfully requests
consideration of this amendment and remarks made herein.

Claims 1-3 are pending.

Applicant has amended the first paragraph of the specification to update the cross
reference to related applications to indicate that the above-captioned application is a continuation
application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (b) of prior copending U.S. Patent Application No.
09/251,124, filed February 16, 1999, presently allowed, which is a divisional application of
International Patent Application PCT/US97/14548, filed August 15, 1997, which is a
continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 08/696,573, filed June 16, 1996, now U.S.
Patent No. 5,710,137. In the Preliminary Amendment filed November 21, 2001, the Serial No.
08/696,573 contained a typographical error wherein two of the numbers were transposed to read
08/596,753. A marked up version of this replacement paragraph is attached herewith. No new
matter has been added by this amendment.

Applicant received an Official Filing Receipt dated January 17, 2002 wherein the domestic priority data section indicates that the data is inconsistent with PTO records. The serial number, filing date and patent number marked with an asterick (*) is accurate in the Filing Receipt based on the information provided on the face of the printed patent of U.S. Patent No. 5,710,137. Further, the Combined Declaration and Power of Attorney document filed with the above-captioned application on November 21, 2001 provides the correct data. In view of this Supplemental Preliminary Amendment, all of the references to applicant's claim of priority are believed to be accurate. Therefore, applicant respectfully requests the issuance of a corrected Filing Receipt to remove "(*) Data inconsistent with PTO records" phrase from the domestic priority date section. A copy of the Filing Receipt with the change marked in red is enclosed herewith.

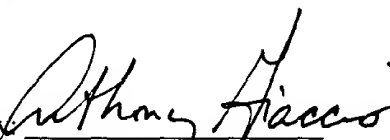
Applicant believes no fee is required. In the event a fee is required, Applicant authorizes the Commissioner to draw such fee from our Deposit Account No. 02-4377. Two copies of this paper are provided.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, favorable consideration of this application is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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**MARKED UP VERSION OF
REPLACEMENT PARAGRAPH
UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.121(b)(ii)**

Page 1, first paragraph has been amended as follows:

-- This application is a continuation application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (b) of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/251,124, filed February 16, 1999, presently allowed, which is a divisional application of International Patent Application PCT/US97/14548, filed August 15, 1997, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 08/696,[75]573, filed June 16, 1996, now U.S. Patent No. 5,710,137. --